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**FEDERAL GRAND JURY INDICTS DEL RIO MAN
FOR ATTEMPTED MURDER OF A FEDERAL OFFICER**

(DEL RIO, TEXAS) A Del Rio man faces additional charges in connection with injuring a United States Customs officer while attempting to flee to Mexico.

This afternoon, a Federal grand jury returned a four-count indictment against 30-year-old **REYMUNDO AVALOS, III**, charging him with one count of attempted murder, two counts of aggravated assault on a federal officer, and one count of exportation of a stolen motor vehicle.

On June 30, 2002, after being placed under arrest by Del Rio Police officers for violating a protective order, Avalos allegedly managed to escape by stealing the officer's patrol car. While attempting to enter Mexico at the Del Rio International Bridge, Avalos struck a United States Customs officer with the stolen patrol car. As a result, the officer suffered serious bodily injury.

Avalos was apprehended by Mexican authorities who subsequently turned him and the stolen police vehicle over to U.S. authorities. He remains in federal custody. Upon conviction on all counts, Avalos faces a maximum of 40 years in federal prison. It is important to note that an indictment is merely a charge and should not be considered as evidence of guilt.

This case is being investigated by the United States Customs Service and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Robert Cadena, Robert Arrambide and Sam Ponder.

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